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BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING

WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third street.—CHRIS AND LENA, at 2 P. M.; closes at 4:30 P. M. Same at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Baker and Farron.

DALY'S FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.
Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Ada Dyer, Miss Fanny Davenport, Mr. Watkins, Mr. George Clark.

NIBLO'S THEATRE.
Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—THE LADY OF THE LAKE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Mr. Joseph Woodstock and Miss Jane Burke.

THEATRE COMIQUE.
No. 514 Broadway.—ON HAND, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.
Broadway and Thirtieth street.—FAIR, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M. Miss Carlotta Le Clercq.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.
Broadway, between Houston and Broome streets.—VAUDEVILLE, and VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT, at 7:30 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NEW PARK THEATRE, BROOKLYN.
Fulton street, opposite the City Hall.—Transatlantic Novelty Company, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.
Twenty-third street, near Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.
Fifty-ninth street and Sixth avenue.—THOMAS' CONCERTS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

COLLOSSEUM.
Broadway, corner of Third street.—LONDON BY NIGHT, at 10 P. M.; same at 10:30 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

ROMAN HYPODROME.
Madison avenue and Twenty-sixth street.—GRAND FACON—CONGRESS OF NATIONS, at 1:30 P. M. and 7 P. M.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, June 1, 1874.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be rainy, clearing in the afternoon.

AFRAID OF THE PRESS.—The Spanish government has forbidden the press to attack its financial measures. All the world knows that the finances of Spain are in a desperate condition, and it is not the least surprising that they cannot bear the light of discussion. But what a mockery of a republic is that which cannot permit even the financial affairs of the country or financial schemes of the government to be spoken of by the press! And are the men who rule Spain so insane as to suppose the credit of the nation can be improved by secrecy?

IT IS NOW announced that Mr. Bristow, the Solicitor General, will be made Secretary of the Treasury. There is, perhaps, no better man in the country for this office. General Grant certainly has that opinion or he would not appoint him. Still, the country does not think so. If Mr. Bristow makes a first class Secretary we shall all be surprised and gratified. But we do not think he will inspire any confidence in the country, and we do not see very well how the President could make a weaker appointment.

THE TROUBLES AND CONDITION OF MANITOBA EXPLAINED.—Our reporter's interview with Mr. Cunningham, a member of the Dominion Parliament from Manitoba, published in another part of the paper, will prove interesting. The cause of the trouble in the Red River territory is explained in a frank and lucid manner. In fact, it is a history comprised in the briefest space. Mr. Cunningham sums up his remarks with a complimentary reference to the United States, and says that our government would have disposed of the Red River trouble in a better and more prompt way had the territory belonged to this country. He does not spare the Canadian authorities in his review of their dealing with Manitoba.

CAPITAL IN THE SOUTH.—The Charleston News and Courier, copying from the HERALD an article on the manufacturing industries of the South, which recommended as a means to induce capital to seek investment the exemption of such property from taxation, says that there is no doubt that the exemption of manufacturers from taxation for a term of years will be a benefit to any community, and in South Carolina, as well as Georgia, that exemption has been granted by an act of the Legislature. For ten years all the new manufacturing undertakings are exempted from State and county taxation, so that capital can be invested in this one way in South Carolina and be free from the excessive taxation to which otherwise it would be liable so long as ring rule lasts.

THERE HAS BEEN so much said about the case of Mr. Jay, our Minister to Vienna—so many absurd and mischievous stories have been printed to that gentlemen's detriment—that the letter we publish elsewhere will be read with interest by his friends and by all who love justice. Mr. Jay is a man of honor, culture and courage, a gentleman of the best type, the descendant of one of the honored names in our history, a man whose efforts in behalf of freedom showed a conspicuous courage of conviction which his whole life has vindicated. The only thing we have ever heard against Mr. Jay is that he is disposed to be an aristocrat. This means that he is a gentleman, as it generally means when complaining Americans return from Europe angry because the Ministers did not act as couriers and look after their baggage. One thing is certain about Mr. Jay, that in everything he has done abroad he has tried to act as became a man of honor and a patriotic American citizen.

Congress and the Currency—Unfortunate Position of the Republican Party.

It is a sound and accepted rule in the politics of free countries to hold the party in power responsible for the public weal and prosperity, so far as they are dependent on governmental action. Even if the republican party were disposed to shrink from this responsibility it could not escape it. It has a President of its own choice; it has so large a majority of both houses of Congress as to give it irresistible control of federal legislation. When it asked the people to confer upon it the great trust with which it is clothed the republican party entered into an obligation to meet every great emergency in public affairs with a sound policy and wise measures. It is most unfortunate for the credit and prospects of the party that, on the first great occasion which has arisen since the success of its reconstruction measures, it has disappointed the expectations and just demands of the country. Confronted with divided counsels, first among its Senators and Representatives in Congress and then between Congress and the President, have resulted in such a spectacle of abortive efforts and party imbecility as was never before witnessed in the legislative history of the country, except in the memorable instance of the baffled whig party after the death of General Harrison, when the favorite whig measures were vetoed by his accidental successor. But there is no close parallel between these remarkable legislative miscarriages. The whig party, after Tyler became President, was substantially united on the fiscal measures he vetoed, and nobody could justly accuse it of forfeiting the pledges it had made to the country. If the President it had elected had not been taken away by death the whig party would have redeemed every promise made to the people in the election by which it was brought into power. But the republican party cannot excuse its failure by the death of its elected President and the opposition of a renegade successor. The republicans cannot show, as the whigs could in 1841, a united party, thwarted by the death of one man and the treachery—as they deemed it—of another. The republican party is found to have no policy on the most important and engrossing question of the time; and unless, within the brief three weeks that remain before the close of the session, it can unite on some adequate measure of relief many of its former supporters will be likely to think that it has forfeited public confidence.

It is futile and irrelevant to say, as some of its apologizing organs have said, that this division of the party on the currency question does not impair its essential unity, because the party was formed and has been maintained on other issues, and a difference on this question is extraneous to the declared aims of the republican organization. To this excuse there are two replies, either of which is sufficient. In the first place, a political party which assumes control of the government is bound to prove itself equal to all emerging public need, as much so as the captain and crew of a ship are bound to navigate her safely in unexpected storms and accidents. Unless the party in control of the government is responsible for the public welfare there is no real accountability at all, and the ship of State may drift upon the breakers and nobody be held blamable for the incapacity by which it was wrecked. The second answer to this lame apology rests upon the public declarations with which the republican party won the confidence of the country. It is not true that the republican party, as a political organization, has not promulgated any policy on the great question which has agitated the country since the beginning of the present session. The republican party has, for more than six years, held itself up to view and courted public support as the great champion of a gold policy, as opposed to a greenback or paper policy. It was on this issue that General Grant was first elected in 1868. The contest in that campaign turned on the meaning of the word "dollar." A majority of the Western democrats, led by Pendleton, contended that the promise to pay dollars to the holders of the government bonds would be satisfied by paying them the nominal paper dollars called greenbacks. The republican party, with a manly honesty which the country indorsed, declared in its national platform that this would be repudiation and national dishonor. It correctly held that the only honest meaning of the word "dollar" was the weight of gold stamped with that name by public authority; that the greenbacks, like the United States bonds, were government promises to pay so many dollars to the creditors holding them, and there would be equal dishonesty and bad faith in repudiating either promise.

The republican party solemnly bound itself to this interpretation of the promise to pay dollars in the flush of victory immediately after the first inauguration of President Grant. It could not then be charged with any deceptive electioneering motive, for a great triumph had just been achieved, and the party was secure of power for the ensuing four years. It will be recollected that the new Congress elected with President Grant assembled on the 4th of March, 1869. To attest its sincerity in the then recent election, and as a proof of the supreme importance it attached to the financial issue, the most prominent act passed by Congress at that session was one relating to the public credit. That act was a pledge by the government to discard every meaning of the word dollar except that which makes it consist of the established mint weight of gold, and an equally solemn pledge of the public faith to pay the greenback in that medium. We quote its precise, explicit language:—"In order to strengthen the public credit the faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment in coin or its equivalent of all the obligations of the United States not bearing interest known as United States notes, and of all the interest bearing obligations of the United States, except in cases where the law authorizing the issue of any of such obligation has expressly provided that the same may be paid in lawful money or other currency than gold and silver, and also to make provision at the earliest practicable period for the redemption of the United States notes in coin."

Never in the history of legislation has a government or a political party bound itself by a more public, formal and solemn pledge than that made by the republican Congress in the act here cited, which was officially signed

by President Grant on the fourteenth day after his first inauguration. Such of the republican organs, therefore, as say that the party is not answerable for the failures of this Congress have fallen into a great oversight. If the republican party, as a coherent political organization, ever pledged itself to anything, it is bound by a promise of the most formal publicity to make good the only standard of value in the United States and to take efficient measures for bringing the legal tender notes to par with coin. President Grant, not only in all his annual messages, but nobly and conspicuously in his veto, has insisted on the honest fulfillment of that solemn pledge; but, most unfortunately, he is supported only by a minority of his party in Congress. The party has still about three weeks of grace for setting itself right with the country, and it will find itself at a great disadvantage in the ensuing elections if it leaves itself exposed to the damaging accusations which its opponents can bring against it on this subject.

The veto cannot shield the party from condemnation unless Congress takes wise action in the brief space that is left. The veto has merely saved the party from a deeper plunge into the abyss of dishonor; but the country demanded and had a right to expect positive measures of relief. After the panic last fall all eyes were turned to Congress, and the people impatiently awaited its assembling in the hope that its guiding prudence would promptly bring the business of the country into a sounder condition and establish it on a more stable basis. Six wearisome months have been wasted in fruitless discussions, and there is danger that that body will adjourn leaving things precisely as they were when it assembled. Can the republican party afford to go before the country with such a record of impotence and imbecility on the most important question of the session? If it leaves the financial question in the same state in which it found it, and utterly disappoints public expectation after confessing the importance of the subject by devoting to it so much time and debate, will not the country be likely to condemn and repudiate the party as incapable of dealing with great public necessities? To borrow one of Mr. Lincoln's apt phrases, the people will regard a republican Congress as "an auger that won't bore." We would fain hope that the party in power may yet, though late, take a realizing sense of the disadvantages under which it is likely to go into this year's elections, and do something to retrieve its credit while the lamp of the present session, in the language of the good Dr. Watts, holds out to burn.

The Vacancy in the Park Commission.

In selecting a successor to Mr. Wales in the Park Commission it is possible that the Mayor may so far disregard public opinion as to appoint an agent of Comptroller Green or a person probably respectable enough in character, but known only as a political wirepuller. Mr. Havemeyer's appointments have not heretofore been such as to inspire confidence in his choice on the present important occasion. But he is ambitious for a third term in the City Hall, so that before his official life closes he may be tolerably certain of burying the veteran Matseil with police honors, and of securing a number of other vacancies in the public departments through the natural workings of time. Under these circumstances, much as it gratifies him to astonish the community by his official vagaries, ordinary prudence should suggest the danger of bringing upon the Park Department similar scandals to those which now blacken the reputation of the departments of Police and Charities and Correction. It will scarcely be safe for Mr. Havemeyer to outrage public decency much longer, and after the exposure made by Mr. Wales any questionable appointment to fill the vacancy caused by that gentleman's resignation would be regarded as sufficient ground for the removal of the Mayor.

Central Park has heretofore been the pride of the city, and all that has been objectionable in its management has been traced to Mr. Green. While active Commissioner he contrived to draw more than ten thousand dollars a year out of the Treasury for his personal services, although filling what was supposed to be an unsalaried office. No other Commissioner since the Park was first projected has displayed such a mercenary spirit. Since Mr. Green has been unable to draw money directly from the parks he has sought to control the patronage and the action of the Department, and, according to the showing of Mr. Wales, has fastened upon its funds an army of incompetent and unnecessary employees. The very fact that the Comptroller interferes in any manner with the appointments and expenditures of an independent department, whose requisitions and bills he audits and allows, is itself an evidence of venality and corruption. Colonel Stebbins, the present President of the Park Commission, may assuredly be trusted to put a stop to this scandal and to protect the interests of the people. But he cannot do so single-handed, and it rests with the Mayor to decide whether, by the appointment of such a citizen as Leonard W. Jerome to the vacant commissionership, he will secure the reforms so much needed or make the Park Department as notorious as the Police or Charities and Correction and drive every honorable citizen out of the Commission. Colonel Stebbins and Mr. Jerome are gentlemen of high social position, of wealth, taste, leisure and energy. They are familiar with European parks and know well how to make our own popular and enjoyable with comparatively insignificant expenditure. They have no political ambition to subvert, no incompetent friends to provide for and no interests save those of the people to study. The Mayor has the sole responsibility in the matter. He can appoint Mr. Jerome, he can place the Commission in the hands of Mr. Green, or he can inject some political wirepuller for purposes of his own. But consequences of a more serious character than he may imagine may result from another abuse of his power.

THE PILOT LAWS.—We do not think the abolishment of pilot laws and allowing every captain to pilot his own vessel into port would detract from the commercial supremacy of this city or cause one ship less to come here, and therefore do not support our system of pilotage at that ground. We maintain that it is in the interest of commerce, for the benefit of the shipping merchants generally, as well as a necessary protection to the harbor, that

foreign vessels, at least, should be required to take our pilots to bring them into port. There may be a question as to whether coasting vessels, or a certain class of coasting vessels, might be exempted or not from compulsory pilotage; but there is none, we believe, as to the class of larger vessels in the foreign trade. If pilotage were abolished we should have, in the course of a few years, probably, the outer channel blocked by wrecks; and if one skilful captain acquainted with the harbor would bring his ship in safely, and should be permitted to do so, how many not as capable, or may be not capable at all, would venture to do the same thing, in order to avoid expense, and so meet with disaster?

Rochester.

The extraordinary interest inspired by the letter of M. Rochefort to the HERALD, which we printed yesterday, leads us to announce its republication in the WEEKLY HERALD, with some corrections in the translation, made necessary by the extreme haste in which our work was done. Nothing has been written for a long time on French politics that will make the impression of this manifesto. It is the awakening of a voice, at one time the most powerful in France, from the silence of exile and imprisonment. We have read nothing on French politics since Victor Hugo's "Napoleon the Little" so masterly, so subtle and so severe. The writing of the *Lanterne* was a wonder in its way, but nothing in the *Lanterne* will compare with this letter for brilliancy and force. We can well understand why M. Rochefort has been so great a man in France, why he may again be as powerful. But the very qualities in this letter which captivate our sense of humor and taste are the qualities which make us fear that his counsels are not always the counsels of safety. M. Rochefort seems to have the genius of destruction. He understands annihilation. He can tear down. But what France needs is a man who will build up. Republicanism never took healthy root except as conservatism. The greatness of Washington was that he insisted upon a conservative republic, although men as attractive and brilliant as M. Rochefort, ambassadors from France, coming as the envoys of a friendly Power, insisted that he should make a republic on the model of that of Robespierre. If MacMahon will do as much he will inspire a confidence in France and in the constancy of its republicanism which all the genius of M. Rochefort cannot destroy.

While, therefore, we are far from agreeing with M. Rochefort, we gladly print the manifesto which he addresses through our columns. A great newspaper is a lyceum, and all opinions are entitled to a hearing. Contending governors in Arkansas threatening civil war, Livingstone in Africa striving to suppress the slave trade, Brigham Young in Utah anxious to defend his empire, Bismarck solicitous to have the good opinions of mankind—all seek the HERALD as the rostrum which addresses the world. It is natural that M. Rochefort, looming up from the sepulchre of exile, should desire to be heard on the same rostrum. He has said many things, wise and unwise, which will be read with interest throughout the world.

Cheap Transportation.

New York may well be proud of and have confidence in its commanding commercial position. There is, too, great power in its capital to draw and control trade. But it may lose relatively, or even positively, in amount of business through the natural advantages or enterprise of other places unless means be taken to head off rivals and to improve the channels of commerce. Over confidence is sometimes dangerous or fatal. The greatest commercial cities of former times have lost their trade by self-satisfied security and by closing their eyes to the march of events. The monetary power and benefits of a favorable exchange were transferred from Amsterdam to London, and, as a consequence, the commerce of the world to England, by a little adroit financial management. Our capitalists and merchants should not feel too secure or despise the efforts made to create a diversion of trade.

A bill has just been read a third time in the Canadian Parliament to incorporate the International Transportation Company, with a capital of five millions of dollars. The object is to draw a large portion of the trade with our Western States down the St. Lawrence or by the Dominion railroads to Portland. It is estimated that the cost will be twenty-five to thirty per cent less for freight by this route than by the way of New York. Thus the Pennsylvania railroads are building large steam vessels for transporting coal to every part of the United States to be used in place of the schooners and coal boats that have deposited their cargoes at New York. Baltimore and other Southern ports are striving for more direct trade with foreign countries. The object should be, therefore, to control all these efforts and make New York the cheapest as well as the best point for collecting and shipping the produce of the country.

In connection with this subject we may advert to the remarks of President Grant in his message to Congress on the value of improved water communication both with the West and along the interior waters of the Atlantic seaboard, such communication being much cheaper than by railroad. Our canal system could be made much more useful in this respect than at present; and the cost of handling and shipping grain and other products at this port ought to be greatly reduced. In connection with General Grant's ideas of utilizing the seaboard interior waters by canals we may notice that Senator Cameron brought this matter before the Senate a few days ago, with a view to have surveys made by government engineers for a ship canal between the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Bay, by the way of the Susquehanna River, and also for making the waters of the Susquehanna navigable. This project of a ship canal from the Chesapeake to the Delaware by the route Mr. Cameron referred to is about to be carried out, charters having been obtained from both the States of Maryland and Delaware. This canal will shorten the distance from Baltimore to New York two hundred and twenty-five miles, and then the cost of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad region can be brought at a dollar less cost a ton to the people and shipping of this port. This line of communication will make Baltimore an entrepot of New York for the vast trade of the South and Southwest. Such enterprises as this one will go far not

only to preserve the commerce of New York, but to keep enlarging it, with the growth and development of the country. If the ship canal system were extended through the sounds of North Carolina to tap the cotton, tobacco and turpentine regions, Norfolk would soon become also an important entrepot of this city. With cheaper, safer and more rapid transportation, production would be greatly stimulated and New York, as well as the South, would reap the benefit. Only enterprise and the use of capital are wanted. Our merchants and rich men ought to direct their attention to all these and to every avenue of commerce with the interior that can be opened, so as to check rivalry and to maintain the commercial supremacy of this great metropolis.

The Pulpit Yesterday.

The pastor of Plymouth Church preached yesterday on a theme well adapted for setting forth his broad and liberal views. He quoted as his text the philosophical and broadly Christian words of Paul to the Romans:—"Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not." The first Christians, like those of the present day, were apt to quarrel over forms and ceremonies, and the question of eating meats was a cause of dissension. Paul, who was a Christian philosopher, chided them for this narrowness of mind, and inculcated a more liberal view of Christianity. Still he would eat or abstain from eating meats if he could win souls and bring harmony among the followers of Christ. Mr. Beecher enlarged upon the text, to inculcate the largest charity and forbearance toward those who differed in unimportant matters. Whatever may be said of this gentleman's orthodoxy his discourse yesterday was in the true spirit of Christianity.

Mr. Frothingham, in something of the same spirit, attacked sectarianism and quoted largely from the great and ancient founders of religion, and particularly from the remarks of Jesus, to sustain the ground he took. He also dwelt upon the comprehensive liberality and charity of Paul. Though Mr. Frothingham is a free thinker and lays his axe at the root of what orthodox Christians believe to be the foundation of their religion—the miracles of the New Testament—his just attacks upon the contracted sectarianism of the day must prove useful.

The Rev. Dr. Porter maintained that Christ taught not dogmas valuable only as opinions, but principles of vital and unchanging efficacy, and that He illustrated these in His life. While he held that the Gospel admitted of no improvement he does not hesitate to say that the professed followers of Jesus generally have not realized the principles set forth.

Dr. Chapin spoke eloquently of the Transfiguration, and made special reference in connection with that subject to Decoration Day. He showed his tact in seizing a current event to popularize a Gospel theme. "Those memorial flowers," he said, "with which they are strewn the soldiers' graves, are themselves most fitting types of transfiguration. Flowers are the symbols of pity, tenderness and love. The North and the South do not look like enemies now—they sleep side by side. The nation scatters garlands not only upon the Northern dead, but upon the nation's dead. They transfigure the nation's thought."

Mr. Hepworth preached in the morning on "Death and the Victory of Immortality." He made special reference to a departed friend, and alluded to his secession from the "old Church." This part of his discourse was touching, as it referred to his personal experience and relations with the deceased.

Dr. Lyman, at the South Congregational church, Brooklyn, spoke of the inscrutable ways of God and justified them. He took for his text the language in Job, "In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight and pass away." We publish a report also of the proceedings at the annual ordination of the Diocese of Long Island and of the annual meeting of the Methodist Extension Society and of the missionary work in this city.

American Securities and German Bankers—Effect of the President's Veto.

Our Frankfurt correspondence, published to-day, will prove unusually interesting just now, as it gives the views of the leading German bankers on the currency question in this country, the President's veto of the Currency bill, and the status of railroad and other securities abroad. The impression made upon the Frankfurt bankers by the veto was good. The telegram announcing the fact arrived on the Bourse at midday, and it had the effect of restoring confidence in American securities. Mr. Seligman said to our correspondent, "the impression produced was very good," and Baron Erlanger said it "produced an excellent impression," and that the President's act "would prove of vast importance to the country." Other prominent bankers expressed themselves in the same way. It appears, however, that there has been a good deal of distrust of American railroad bonds and that they have been quoted very low. The idea is that the bonds of worthless railroads or of railroads that cannot pay have been forced upon the German market. While there is no doubt that we have been making railroads faster than they were needed or where they would not pay, there may be some misapprehension as to these works of improvement. Many would pay on a *bona fide* capital invested and when properly managed, but will not pay on a fictitious capital or inflated stock and securities. Foreign investors should look into this matter. Then the railroads that do not pay at present will in the course of a few years—that is, provided they are properly managed, for the rapid increase of population and development of the country will bring increased business. There are many good railroad and other enterprises in the United States, and foreign capitalists must blame themselves if they do not select these for investment. However, it is gratifying to know that the President's veto, with its tendency towards a stable currency, has in some measure restored confidence in American honesty among the German bankers and capitalists.

CANNOT STAND ANY MORE TALK.—The House

Committee on Appropriations, having charge of the postal telegraph question, has notified the counsel of the Western Union Telegraph Company that it can receive no more arguments or communications orally, and that if the company has anything more to submit it must be submitted in writing. Of course the

committee politely informs the company that any representation made in that way will be carefully considered, but, in truth, we imagine the committee is tired of the reiterated arguments and endless palaver of the Western Union Company's agents. However, the company may find consolation in the report that there is not likely to be any action on the subject this session of Congress.

The Embarrassments of the Reform City Government.

The reform city government is full of embarrassments. The machinery refuses to work smoothly, and every effort to put it in good running order only seems to create new entanglements. The Police Department, which is supposed to watch over the lives and property of the citizens and to guard the morals of the community, is involved in difficulties, first of one character and then of another, until the puzzled looker on is induced to believe that the department is one composed of criminals instead of one established for the prevention, detection and punishment of crime. Now it is charged with being in league with gamblers, policy dealers, banco men and other enterprising individuals in search of a living. Now it is intrusted with the supervision of street cleaning, in addition to its other duties, and becomes the subject of investigation for alleged malpractices in the contract and dumping line. A vacancy occurs in the Commission which rules over the department, and the Mayor and Aldermen get at loggerheads over the appointment and fail to supply a Commissioner. In accordance with a bargain between the republican leaders and the Mayor the latter is endowed by the republican Legislature with the power of filling vacancies without the confirmation of the Aldermen, and straightway the venerable aspirant for a third term appoints a commissioner of his own selection, whose cues appears to be to settle up all outstanding difficulties and make straight sailing for his patron. But the astonishing appointee is scarcely warm in his seat when he commences a rattling of the dry bones of the old Board, which bids fair to prove more damaging than a dozen investigations. The Department of Charities and Correction is no better off than the Police Department. Placed in the hands of new commissioners, with the calcium light of reform shining brightly at its head, the Charities and Correction business is supposed to be above suspicion at last. But Grand Jurors are inquisitive bodies, and one of these inquests chooses to inquire into certain purchases made by the reform department and to present them as being of a very questionable character, illegal and tending directly to corruption. The chivalrous Mayor rushes to the rescue of his Commissioners, slumbers sweetly over a pretended investigation and dreams that the trouble is over. But the newspapers persist in discussing the subject, and desire to know whether it is honest reform to buy supplies for the city of a middle-man and to pay from twenty-five to thirty-five per cent more than the articles cost. The inquiry widens until it promises to embrace the purchase of flour, meat and horses as well as dry goods, and to involve the point whether the location of the whole Commission ought not to be changed from Eleventh street to Blackwell's Island.

While Commissioner Stern's dry goods will not be forgotten, and while Commissioner Laimbeer's flour may require sifting, the question of the meat supply for the paupers and criminals promises to come up as a new embarrassment in this particular department. A glance at the warrants drawn by the Comptroller from April 9 to July 26, 1873, a period of little more than five months, shows that a fortunate butcher has received from the Charities and Correction Department in that time for meat eighty-two thousand five hundred and ninety dollars. At six cents per pound, which, we understand, is the average price under the contract, this sum pays for more than one million three hundred and seventy thousand pounds of fresh meat in less than six months, or over two hundred and twenty-eight thousand pounds per month. As the inmates of the institutions are only allowed fresh meat four days in the week, this, allowing eighteen days in the month for the luxury, would make the consumption about fourteen thousand pounds per day. It appears that meat and poultry are supplied for the officers by other contractors. Now that these figures are likely to come up again in the Grand Jury room, despite the searching investigation made by the Mayor's high and solemn court, the embarrassment of the reform government can be readily understood. In view of these facts the willingness of our venerable Mayor to accept again the cares of office must be regarded as an act of devotion to the public interests worthy of the days of Curtius.

The Mill River Dam.

The evidence brought out by the Coroner's inquest into the Mill River disaster tends to show that it was wholly due to the careless way in which the dam had been constructed. Want of solidity rendered it from the first dangerous, and although the contractors and the mill owners charge upon each other the responsibility public opinion will hold both parties guilty of criminal indifference to the lives of the people. It is no excuse for the contractors that the selfish cupidity of the mill owners had caused them to erect a structure which was certain to be a source of danger. There was nothing to compel the contractors to accept the responsibility of building a dam which they knew would be unsound and dangerous. It was their duty to refuse to erect such a structure. On the other hand, the mill owners' excuse is equally unworthy of serious attention. Business people, they trusted in the good faith of the contractors to erect a proper structure. If this excuse was seriously made it would show those who advance it to be very silly people; but in fact it is only put forth as an attempt to cover up the selfish greediness which caused them to put up an insecure dam at the risk of bringing disaster and death to the inhabitants of the valley.

STATE TREASURER RAINES' CONDITION.

UTICA, N. Y., May 31, 1874.
State Treasurer Raines does not improve very much, mentally or physically. He is still very feeble and unable to leave his bed. Under the most favorable circumstances he will not be able to resume active duties for two or three months. Dr. Drag has informed Governor Dix of this fact.